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Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, NATO, OECD

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL STAFF SALARIES

REF: OECD PARIS 15059

1. WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE SALARY SITUATION SEEMS TO BE EVOLVING IN A DIRECTION FAVORABLE TO U.S. INTERESTS.

2. AT MAY 24-25 COUNCIL MEETING MISSION SHOULD WELCOME STATEMENT BY SECRETARIES-GENERAL (TRANSMITTED REFTEL) AS IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO RESOLUTION OF IMPASSE OVER SALARIES.

3. YOU SHOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS, HOWEVER:

A. ALTHOUGH THE U.S. IS PREPARED TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE IN THE OECD COUNCIL TO THE MODIFICATIONS OF THE 129TH
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REPORT SOUGHT BY THE SECRETARIES-GENERAL, WE MUST INSIST

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THAT MODIFICATIONS BE MADE BY THE CCG. HOWEVER, WE CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AGREE THAT THE SECRETARIES-GENERAL MODIFY THE COL FORMULA AT THEIR OWN DISCRETION. THUS, AFTER THEY REACH AGREEMENT ON MODIFICATIONS, THE PRECISE COL FORMULA MUST BE REFERRED TO THE CCG FOR APPROVAL. WE BELIEVE THIS CAN BE DONE EXPIDITIOUSLY.

B. IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD IN AGREEING TO SUBSTITUTE THE 12TH PARAGRAPH OF THE 123RD CCG REPORT FOR THE 15TH PARAGRAPH OF THE 129TH REPORT, WE ARE NOT DEPARTING FROM OUR STRONGLY HELD VIEW THAT THE BASE PAY OF SENIOR STAFF MEMBERS OF COORDINATED ORGANIZATIONS IS PRESENTLY TOO HIGH AND SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BASE PAY OF NATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS. PARAGRAPH 12 OF THE 123RD REPORT DEALS WITH THE "BASIS" FOR THE GENERAL REVIEW, WHICH WE INTERPRET TO MEAN THE BASIS ON WHICH THE SECRETARIES-GENERAL WILL PREPARE THEIR PROPOSALS. IN ACCEPTING THIS LANGUAGE WE ARE NOT IN ANY WAY CONCEDING OUR RIGHT TO ACT ON THESE PROPOSALS BASED ON THE CRITERIA WHICH WE BELIEVE SHOULD BE APPLIED TO THE GENERAL REVIEW.
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